

THE MEDICAL NEWS AND LIBRARY.

VOL. VI.

OCTOBER, 1848.

No. 70.

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MEDICAL PROGRESS.

Deputation from the American Medical Association to the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association.

[It may be remembered, that at the meeting of the American Medical Association in Baltimore, in May last, delegates were appointed to represent the Association at the annual meeting of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association. At this meeting, which was held at Bath, in August, GEO. B. WOOD, M. D., of the University of Pennsylvania, one of the delegates, presented himself, and was received in the most flattering manner; the sentiments which prompted his appointment, were fully responded to, and the whole proceedings were such as cannot fail to gratify the profession in this country, and tend to cement more strongly the union between the members of the profession in the two countries.

The following account of Dr. Wood's reception is extracted from the proceedings of the *Prov. Med. and Surg. Ass.*, published in their official organ.]

Dr. HASTINGS said, he begged to announce, and he did so with the greatest gra-

tification, that they were favoured with the presence of a deputation from one of the largest bodies of the medical profession which existed on the other side of the Atlantic. He was sure it was the wish of at present that the union between this country and America should be more closely cemented; and that whether they were engaged in the advancement of science, or for the welfare of humanity, there should be a reciprocity of feeling between these two great countries. He would therefore read to the meeting the formal announcement of the fact which he had just made known:—

"The American Medical Association, constituted of delegates from the several States of the Union, recognizing the ties of a common brotherhood among medical men throughout the world, and desirous, by literary and personal intercourse, to strengthen the bonds of such alliance, alike as regards individuals and Societies, designed like their own to advance the honour and usefulness of the profession, and entertaining these sentiments and views, especially towards the medical profession in their mother-country, at the annual session held in the city of Baltimore, on the 5th day of May, 1848, instructed

Published Monthly by LEA & BLANCHARD, Philadelphia, at One Dollar a year, and sent GRATUITOUSLY to all subscribers of the American Journal of the Medical Sciences, who remit the annual subscription, Five Dollars, in advance.

In no case will this work be sent unless the money is paid in advance.

This should pay postage as one newspaper.

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the undersigned (its presiding officers and Secretaries) to accredit to the English Provincial Medical and Surgical Association, twelve of its members as delegates.

"In the exercise of this duty, we do hereby accredit as a delegate, our associate, George B. Wood, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy in the University of Pennsylvania.

"ALEX. H. STEVENS, of New York, President.

"JOHN C. WARREN, of Massachusetts, SAMUEL JACKSON, of Pennsylvania, Vice Presidents.

"ALFRED STILLE,

"HENRY J. BOWDITCH, } Secretaries."

Dr. Hastings continued—He thought he need hardly say one word to insure the unanimous concurrence of the whole meeting on the resolution he was about to propose, after hearing the fact of Dr. Wood's coming among them—knowing also that he represented the whole medical profession of America—and standing as he did, in the highest rank in that profession, he (Dr. Hastings) was sure that every member of the Association would be anxious to show Dr. Wood the greatest possible respect. There were, in connection with the Association, various associates, who were styled honorary correspondents, residing in foreign countries, and he should have the pleasure of proposing that the name of Dr. Wood be added to that list. He would therefore at once move—

"That George B. Wood, M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacy in the University of Pennsylvania, one of the Physicians of the Pennsylvania Hospital, and President of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, be appointed an Honorary Corresponding Member."

Dr. Heygate had very great pleasure in seconding the proposal of Dr. Hastings.

The President put the resolution, which was carried unanimously, all the members standing.

Dr. WOOD said he could not let the occasion pass without offering a few words, though he would not detain the meeting at any length. He would, however, say how gratified he felt at being present at their meeting, as the delegate of his medical brethren on the other side of the Atlantic, and how profoundly grateful he felt for the honour of being appointed one of the Asso-

ciates. Perhaps he might be allowed to indulge in two or three observations in relation to his position there on the present occasion. He was travelling in this country with personal views, when he received his credentials from the General Medical Association of the United States, accrediting him as their delegate to the meeting of the Institutions of Great Britain; and although it was entirely out of his plan to be there at that time, yet he felt too much the importance of giving proper effect to this expression of the feeling of the medical profession in the United States, to allow any personal considerations to weigh with him. The General Medical Association of the United States, was, as its name explained, a society of the practitioners of America; it was established some three or four years since, for the purpose of conveying information, and promoting union among the members of the profession; an organization ensued, and this year the third meeting of medical men from every part of the United States, represented by delegates, had been held at Baltimore. The Association was not local in its objects, but might properly be considered as representing the medical profession of America; and his appointment as the delegate from such a body might, he thought, be taken as an evidence of the desire which existed for reciprocating kindly feelings between the members of the profession in this country and America. On such a subject it would be easy to enlarge, but as the time of the meeting was limited, he would do no more than again repeat his thanks for the honour which had been conferred upon him.

On the suggestion of Dr. Hastings, a reply to the document received from the American Society was ordered to be prepared, and Dr. Robertson and Dr. John Conolly, of Hanwell, were requested to prepare the reply, and submit the same to the evening meeting.

At the meeting of the Association on the subsequent day, the President again introduced the subject.

He said that "Dr. Wood, of Philadelphia, had attended that meeting, and communicated to it a resolution of the American Medical Association, constituted of delegates from the several States of the Union, accrediting delegates to the English Provincial Medical and Surgical Association; among whom Dr. Wood was especially appointed to meet the members of this Association,

with an expression of the desire of the American Medical Association to strengthen the bonds of alliance among medical men throughout the world, and especially with the medical profession of their mother-country, by means of literary and personal intercourse. These sentiments were conveyed to the meeting by Dr Hastings, the President of the Council, and were most cordially received and responded to by the meeting.

It was then unanimously resolved on the motion of Dr. Hastings, seconded by Dr. Wallis,

"That this Association, duly appreciating the value of the communication made to it by Dr. Wood, and fully agreeing with the sentiments entertained by the American Association, request Dr. Wood to convey to them the thanks of this Association."

The PRESIDENT then said,—Dr. Wood, the Association, taking into consideration the communication made by you this morning from the American Medical Association, have passed a resolution in which they have desired me to express to you the appreciation which we have of your Society, both as regards medical science in general, and the compliment which it has paid to this Society in particular. I have also been requested to express to you the high feeling which we entertain towards your professional brethren in America, and how completely we reciprocate the sentiments which you have conveyed to us from them. At the same time, also, allow me to inform you, that you have been enrolled as an Honorary Corresponding Member of this Society.

Dr. WOOD said—It gives me great pleasure, Mr. President, to be the means of conveying the sentiments of reciprocity of this Association to that of my own country, and I shall return there a prouder man, as being the means of conveying this communication from you. I need not say how very thankful I am for the personal notice I have myself received at your hands, and it shall be my endeavour to do nothing which can disgrace the honour you have conferred upon me.—*Prov. Med. and Surg. Journ.*, August, 1841.

SKETCHES AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF MEDICAL QUACKERY.

On the Ervalenta and Revalenta Arabica.
—In the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, March,

1845, the nature of a secret remedy for constipation, called *Ervalenta*, and *Melasse de la Cochin China*, was exposed. The first, (the *ervalenta*,) we explained, was the meal of the lentil, called *Ervum Lens*, sold at three times its ordinary price; and the second (the *melasse de la Cochin China*), was common treacle, sold at five times the usual charge for it; and the smallest quantity of these two sold, cost twenty-eight shillings.

"The speculation has, we presume, proved a lucrative one, for it has given rise to an imitation in the form of a preparation called '*Revalenta Arabica*, a nutritive and eminently curative fecula, derived from an African plant.' It is prepared like gruel, by mixing two ounces of it with a pint and a half, or a quart of water, boiling over a slow fire, and stirring well till it has boiled for fifteen minutes. Honey, or the best raw sugar, and salt to taste, are then added, and it is ready for use. If this does not act sufficiently on the bowels, two or three spoonfuls of 'our prepared melasse' are to be substituted for the raw sugar.

"The word '*Revalenta*' is obviously borrowed from '*Ervalenta*' by the transposition of the letters of the first syllable.

"The word '*Ervalenta*' is derived, as we before explained, from the '*Ervum Lens*,' the botanical name of the lentil.

"The lentil is cultivated in Egypt, as well as in various parts of Europe, and therefore the proprietor of the *revalenta* is so far correct when he says it is an 'African plant.'

"On subjecting the meal called *revalenta* to a microscopic examination, we find that, like *ervalenta*, it is prepared from the lentil. The character of the starch-grain readily distinguishes it."

The expected-to-be omniscient medical man has here the history of this queer-named composition. The facts speak for themselves much more truthfully than the silly certificates which are puffed in such abundance on the subject, from the pens of dyspeptic parsons, constipated lawyers, &c.
—*Lancet*, Aug. 5.

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Homœopathic Honesty.—A highly respectable gentleman, who holds a responsible station in a neighbouring State, (Ky.,) informed a professional friend of ours, called to attend him in a recent illness, that, some year and a half since, he had a strong predilection for Homœopathy. He became sick, and sent for a practitioner of the Hahne-

mannic order. He told him at once that all that ailed him, was the *quinine* that the doctors had previously given him, and launched into a tirade of abuse of Allopathy. "I will give you," said he, "an antidote to the quinine, and you will soon be well." Some powders were given. Not getting better after a few days, the patient began to complain. "To-morrow I will change the medicine," said the honest disciple; "have patience, and you will soon be well." On the next day, some *drops* were given. They tasted rather bitter, and on testing them, both the powders and the drops were found to contain *considerable quantities of quinine*, not of the twentieth potency, but good, regular, common sense doses. The patient was immediately cured—of Homœopathy, and there is no danger of a relapse.—*Ohio Med. and Surg. Journ.*, Sept. 1848.

Hydropathy.—Dr. SAYRE, of N. Y., relates a case, illustrative of the universal merits of Hydropathy. A child, ill with the measles, was, by the advice of a practitioner of this sect, sponged with cold water every fifteen minutes during the day and night. In the morning it had symptoms of suffocation: the Dr. finding the child pale, livid, and breathing with difficulty, administered *tart. emetic, in very large doses*. The child died on the fourth day of this Water-cure process. *The lungs throughout, were in a state of the most intense congestion*.—*Annalist*.

MEDICAL NEWS.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

Transactions of the American Medical Association.—We are happy to announce the completion of this volume, which makes a handsome octavo, illustrated with five plates, two of which are coloured. Justice to the committee of publication seems to require we should state that *immediately* after their appointment, they made arrangements which they believed would secure the early publication of the Transactions. But delays in the transmission, and loss of proofs from authors, arising from neglect in the post offices, and also the failure of the colourist to fulfil his contract, have delayed it until the present time.

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per copy, on remitting that amount to Messrs. Lea & Blanchard.

The Annalist.—The number of this Journal for the 15th of last month, contains the farewell of the editor, Dr. Wm. C. ROBERTS. We regret that he should have resigned a position which he has filled with so much credit to himself, and advantage to the profession, and to the cause of sound ethics. His successor, Dr. N. S. Davis, formerly of Binghampton, is a gentleman of undoubted genius, who has struggled to acquire knowledge under difficulties which would have daunted any but the most ardent spirit.

The New York Journal of Medicine.—This Journal has also changed editors, the late erudite editor, Dr. C. A. Lee, retiring, and Dr. Purple being his successor.

The Ohio Medical and Surgical Journal.—This is the title of a new candidate for professional favour, which has lately appeared at Columbus, Ohio, under the editorial direction of Dr. John Butterfield, Prof. of Pract. Med. in Starling Medical College. We wish it success.

Saratoga Medical Society.—The 42d annual meeting of this society was held at Balston Spa, May 30th, 1848. The following officers were elected:—

Dr. H. Baxter, *Prest.*

Dr. H. Reynolds, *Vice Prest.*

Dr. T. B. Reynolds, *Sec. and Treas.*

O. Brisbin, R. L. Allen, B. F. Johnson, T. B. Reynolds, and D. W. Culver, Censors. Dr. H. Reynolds, delegate to the State Medical Society, and Drs. A. J. Chadsey, O. Brisbin, J. Pulling, H. Baxter, and T. B. Reynolds, delegates to the National Medical Association, with power of substitution individually.

Belladonna mislabeled Extract of Dandelion.—It is stated, in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, that "a considerable quantity of the extract of belladonna purporting to be dandelion, has been sent over the United States, by the shakers of Mount Lebanon, N. Y., and that several accidents have happened in consequence. Fortunately, the extract of belladonna was a bad preparation; had it been a good one, some lives might have been sacrificed. The

Society are said to have been aware of the mistake without taking any measures to correct it!" The editor of the Boston Journal may well ask, "Is there no legal punishment for such abominable selfishness and reckless disregard for human life?"

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

A Bicephalous monster with one head black and the other white.—M. PRUS has recently addressed to the Medical Society of Paris, a communication on a singular case of monstrosity, which occurred at Alexandria. The monster, which was born dead, had two heads attached to one trunk. The heads were well formed: one was white, and appeared to correspond to about the eighth month of uterine life; the other was black, of larger size, and had apparently reached maturity. In other respects, the child which was a male, was normally developed. The shoulders, trunk, and upper and lower extremities, were white. The nails were imperfectly formed, and resembled those of an immature child. The alteration in the colour of the skin commenced about the level of the neck of the black head. It was here brown, becoming gradually deeper, and passing imperceptibly to a deep black, extending over the whole of the head and face. M. Prus made a careful examination, and satisfied himself that the change of colour was not owing to any nævus, sanguineous congestion, or other morbid condition. When the epidermis was removed, there was a thick layer of pigmentum nigrum in the mucous tissue of the skin. He therefore referred this head to the negro-type—an inference which was justified by its form and general aspect. The parents were *fellahs*—the mother was from 25 to 30 years of age; and the father about 30, a labourer in the port of Alexandria. Like all individuals of this tribe, they had a brown skin, with a yellowish tint. The woman died soon after delivery: she had previously had five well-formed children, of whom four had been born dead.

The physiological questions which arise in respect to this monster, are difficult of solution. Did the two heads belong to different types, fellah and negro? Is it a case of superfoetation, in which two ova have been separately fecundated, the one by a negro, and the other by a white; the ova becoming fused, with the exception of the two heads?

If this were the case, it is difficult to understand why some portion of the skin of the trunk and extremities should not have been equally black. M. Prus remarks, that there are negro labourers in the port of Alexandria, but he could not ascertain whether the mother had had intercourse with one of that race. A committee has been appointed by the Society to draw up a report upon this very remarkable case.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, Aug. 1848, from *L'Union Médicale*.

Use and Abuse of Anæsthetic Agents.—Mr. JAMES BRAID, in an article in the *Medical Times*, (Aug. 19.) remarks:—"Of all the revolutions which ever took place in regard to any medicinal agent, nothing so eventful was ever known as what has been evinced in the fate of anæsthetic agents. Their advent was hailed with universal enthusiasm, and seemed to be followed by unalloyed success. By their agency, a second Eden seemed to be dawning on fallen man, pain and peril were no longer to be the lot of those doomed to undergo surgical operations, and parturient women exulted in the assured confidence that they were redeemed from the pains and penalties of the primal curse, through the omnipotent powers of ether and chloroform.

"The rapidity with which these potent agents attained their culminating point of fame and favour is most remarkable, and not the least surprising point in my estimation, was this, that their almost universal adoption, and in many instances their being applied apparently with little care or caution, took place without the occurrence of dangerous or fatal accidents. For a considerable period all seemed a run of unalloyed success; but the tide has now turned, and instances of disaster and death are recorded as such frequent occurrences from the use of chloroform, as must soon issue in the entire abandonment of this agent by the profession, and the insurmountable dread of it by the public, unless we can arrive at some satisfactory solution of the true cause of the late unfortunate results, and determine the principles which ought to guide us in its future administration, so as to insure the blessing without the curse, of an agent which seems to be alike potent for good or for evil, according to the mode in which it is administered.

—
Deiamba, or Congo Tobacco. A new Nar-

cotic.—The Deiamba, or Congo tobacco, is a plant which grows wild on the marshy banks of the Congo or Zaira. When full grown, it is six or seven feet in height. Its long spreading branches are covered with small leaves about three inches long, and beneath these are the flowers containing the seeds. These flowers are exposed to the sun for several days, and dried before use. If when smoked, the vapour be swallowed, symptoms of narcotic poisoning appear. The deiamba is well known to all the Portuguese residents on the African coasts. It is used by the natives both as an article of luxury, and as a medicine.—*Lond. Med. Gaz.*, Aug. 1848.

Hygienic influence of Cutting the Hair.—Medical men are occasionally asked whether it is proper to cut the patient's hair; whether, in fact, this operation has any influence upon the health. M. Fredericque resolves the question by giving the following illustration:—

A little girl, aged 3, of good health in general, had her hair to grow excessively long during the course of a few months. She was a beautiful child, but had latterly wasted without any apparent cause, becoming dull and apathetic, losing her appetite and strength without any organic lesion being discernible. There was an anæmic bruit in the carotids. She was placed upon a tonic regimen, with chalybeates, but without deriving material benefit, until her hair was cut short, at the suggestion of a friend, from which time she rapidly gained strength.

It would appear in this case that the economy had suffered a loss in the expenditure of blood necessary for the secretion of the abundant crop of hair. M. Fredericque considers that it is the formation of the colouring matter which chiefly exhausts the blood, as this is formed at the expense of the hæmatosine.—*Rev. Méd. Chir.*

Period of the Incubation of Hydrophobia.—Dr. Copland, in his "*Dictionary of Practical Medicine*," gives the average time for the maturation of the hydrophobic virus, at from six to twelve months. The late Mr. Youatt, who probably saw more of rabies than any other man, gives it as from three weeks to six months; Hunter thought that all credible cases must have occurred before the eighteenth month after inoculation; Mr. Ackerly relates, in a late number of the *Lancet*, a case in which it extended to from ten

to eleven years; and Dr. Bardsly has related one in which it was twelve years!

Influence of Russian Vapour-baths on the Cholera.—Of all the means employed against cholera, one of them from which the most efficacy is derived, is the vapour-bath. In some cases it has produced the most advantageous results in Russia, where its use is more generally adopted than in our climate. In the report of the medical commission, sent to Petersburg in 1830, we see that in the hospital of the hemp merchants, which contains all the materials for vapour-baths, out of forty cholera patients submitted to that treatment, six only died. Dr. Minchowsky, chief physician to the establishment, having, at the request of Drs. Barry and Russell, heated and fitted up the baths with vapour, as in the case of receiving patients for the cholera, two servants belonging to the hospital were sent with a thermometer for the purpose of measuring the degree of heat. In the space of three minutes the thermometer mounted, in the most elevated part of the building, to 46° Reaumur's scale, and in seven minutes it rose upon the bench where the patients were placed, to 58° 12. Dr. Minchowsky, when a patient was brought in suffering under a severe effect of frost, placed him in the bath extended on the bench, and, after rubbing him with divers substances, applied the vapour of water and vinegar, until the circulation was restored, or until all hope of saving life had vanished. A patient who was at the last extremity, after being three hours in the vapour-bath at the high temperature, was restored to life. One of the physicians belonging to the commission, gives an interesting description of the vapour-baths in Russia, and the sensations he experienced, when he tried the effects on his own person.—*Med. Times*, Sept. 2.

Progress of the Cholera.—At Riga, up to the 17th of August, 6,095 persons had been attacked, of whom 1,968 died, 3,709 recovered, and 418 were still ill. The epidemic has been more fatal at Mittau: of 782 persons who were attacked, up to the 31st of August, 303 have died, and only 54 have recovered. Since the beginning of July, the cholera has broken out in Siberia, where it had not penetrated in former years. At Stettin, where it broke out on the 10th, there have been 204 victims up to the 30th.

During the twenty-four hours, from noon on the 30th, to noon on the 31st, the police received intelligence of 38 fresh cases—a far higher number than during any preceding day, when the number did not exceed 25. During the next twenty-four hours, the number of cases amounted to 50. During the same lapse of time, the number of fresh cases at Magdeburg was 11, which likewise shows an increase. From the East, the latest intelligence reaches to the 15th of August, from Trebizond; 19th from Constantinople; and 21st, from Smyrna. At Trebizond, the disease seemed to be on the decline, though it had carried off 600 out of 1200 attacked. At Constantinople, the disease continued much the same; but at Smyrna, the deaths were some thirty per diem. Scarcely any attacked survive, and death has ensued after, in some cases, a few minutes, and in most cases, only a few hours. At Magnesia, eight hours distant from Smyrna, the deaths number 35 daily. From Egypt, the accounts from Cairo are to the 19th of August; and from Alexandria, to the 21st; both showing a decrease. The returns from the former, report 202 cases on the 15th, 203 on the 16th, 184 on the 17th, 143 on the 18th, and 174 on the 19th; from Alexandria, 97 cases on the 19th, 75 on the 20th, and 100 on the 21st.

A letter from Aleppo, published in the *Constitutionnel* of Wednesday, gives a frightful account of the ravages of the cholera morbus in Asia Minor. The number of deaths increases daily, and between the 17th and the 19th of July, nearly 1000 patients succumbed. Belief in predestination prevents the Mohammedan part of the population from taking any precautions, or resorting to any remedies. Since the 15th of July, the average diurnal number of deaths has amounted to 140. To aggravate the evil, there are only three European physicians in Aleppo, with a population of 80,000.

It is said that of 14,000 men who formed the Russian corps which entered Wallachia, 1800 have died of cholera.

The cholera has appeared at Warsaw. It is on the increase in Berlin, and is making fearful ravages in many parts of Turkey.

The Cholera in Smyrna.—The following is an extract of a letter, dated Smyrna, 16th of August, five days later than the advices which have appeared in the London papers:—"The cholera has appeared here, and a

great many cases have proved fatal. At first it began amongst the lower classes, about five in a day, but now it is evidently increasing, and several people in our first streets have been taken off. A servant girl next door to mine died in six to eight hours. People are dreadfully terrified, and are all leaving town for the villages, being so much put out of the way, that they do not think of commerce. Until lately the fig crop has promised well, but recently some of them have turned yellow on the tree and dropped off. The Turks being obliged now to fast all day until the malady is over, the fruit will be kept in the interior."

—
The Cholera in Egypt.—Alexandria, Aug. 1st. The cholera has broken out, throughout all Egypt, with more or less intensity. It made its first appearance about the middle of last month, in a town of the Delta, called Tantah, where an immense number of people, amounting to about 165,000, were assembled in pilgrimage, from all parts of Egypt and Syria, to celebrate the festival of a Mohammedan saint. In Cairo, during the last week, there have been about 300 cases daily; here about 120. In most of the villages on the Nile there are daily cases, and it is much feared that the number will materially increase during the present month of Ramadan, which began yesterday, when the natives fast all day, and commit excesses during the night. Before the people dispersed at Tantah, it is said that there must have been upwards of 3,000 deaths from this disease. On the first outbreak of the cholera, measures of quarantine were strictly enforced, but they have since been abandoned as useless; no quarantine whatever is now performed, and arrivals from Constantinople are admitted to free *pratique*.—*Lancet*, Aug. 26.

Austrian Poland. The *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* has letters from Galicia, of Aug. 17th, stating that the cholera was then making rapid progress in that province, and had advanced as far as the circle of Wadowice, which touches the frontiers of Silesia. In the last-mentioned province some cases had already been reported.

Berlin, Aug. 21.—Up to the 20th, eighty persons have been attacked by the cholera; fifty-nine are dead, seven have recovered, and four are under treatment.

France.—The French government are very active in their measures regarding the

approach of the cholera. The information received from the medical men who were sent to St. Petersburg to study the disease, as well as the most efficacious curative and prophylactic means to combat the fearful scourge, will be speedily published.

Egypt.—We gather from the letter of a French physician, holding a sanitary appointment at Cairo, addressed to the *Gazette Médicale de Strasbourg*, the following particulars:—The cholera has made terrible ravages at Boulaq, a suburb of Cairo; the patients sank in a few hours, and the autopsy of several victims, made at the medical school before the professors of the establishment, has left no doubt as to the nature of the disease. On the 17th of July, as many as thirty a day were dying in Boulaq. Cairo itself had not suffered as yet, and the northern part of the above-named suburb, which receives the fresh breezes, had been the most severely visited. The thermometer marks from 98° to 99° Fahr. in the shade. The disease on the 26th of July was on the decline, and more people are saved by prompt and active means. Cairo is now itself invaded, and the terror is very great, so much so that European physicians are admitted into the harems, a thing never heard of before. The number of deaths varies from 120 to 130 a day, and the number is just as high in Alexandria. The writer of this letter had been himself attacked, and had well nigh fallen a victim.

Russia.—The *Augsburg Gazette* has letters from St. Petersburg to the 12th of August, which inform us that the cholera had so far subsided that several temporary hospitals and lazarettos have been closed. 163 deaths occurred between the 4th and 10th of August. In Moscow and Riga the malady is gradually subsiding; but, on the other hand, it rages in Pskov, where, in the space of seven days, 111 patients out of 264 had succumbed, and only 27 recovered.

Advices received from St. Petersburg up to August 15th, state—"There have been but 37 new cases of cholera before yesterday, and 19 deaths, whilst the number of recoveries amounted to 84. Yesterday morning there were still 891 cholera patients under treatment. If the disease continues to diminish in this manner, we shall be rid of it in a week. It is, on the other hand, announced that the cholera has just broken out at Narva, a town situated on the Narova, thirty-five leagues west of St. Petersburg."

L'Union Médicale gives a few interesting extracts from a letter addressed to that journal from St. Petersburg:—In 1846, the summer was very hot in Europe, and at the close of the same year the cholera broke out in the Caucasian provinces. At the beginning of 1847, it traversed the Caspian Sea, entered Russia by the Volga, and raged in all that part of the Russian empire until October, 1847, when it arrived in Moscow in following the course of rivers. In June, 1848, it reached St. Petersburg from Ladoga, in descending the Neva. If the fluvial theory be not strictly correct, it is very probable that the heat preceding the two invasions had something to do with the nature of the disease, for the hot summer of 1830 preceded its appearance in Russia in 1831, and the great heat of the summer of 1846 preceded the breaking out of 1847. Dr. Leroux, a French physician settled at St. Petersburg, maintains that the presence of cholera is owing to the absence of electricity in the atmosphere. As a proof of this, he mentions that the usual thunder storms which close the winter season and usher in the spring, have this year been wanting at Moscow, and the cold season crept on as far as June; it froze on the 12th and snowed on the 20th; and with this total absence of storms and electric manifestations we have the cholera. At St. Petersburg, although the heat is not great, and there is moisture enough, the leaves wither and fall—is it for want of electricity in the atmosphere? The cholera broke out at St. Petersburg on the 7th of June, and began to decrease on the 6th of July. In June, rain and cold weather occurred; in the night, from the 5th to the 6th of July, a violent storm and sultry heat, and with it a decline in the number of cases.—*Lancet*, Sept. 2.

Cholera Statistics.—At St. Petersburg, there were attacked from the 30th of June, to 21st of July, 19,772 persons, of whom 11,068 died, and 4,834 recovered. In the whole of Russia from the first appearance of the epidemic on the 28th of October, 1846, to 5th July, 1848, there were attacked 290,318 persons, of whom 116,658 died.

Obituary Record.—Died at Stockholm, on the 7th of August, Baron Berzelius, aged 69, the father of analytical chemistry.